



## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

#### **Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Marine Recreational Information Program Longitudinal Survey of Recreational Fishing Participation**

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before [Insert date 60 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at

[JJessup@doc.gov](mailto:JJessup@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Dave Van Voorhees, (301) 427-8189 or [Dave.Van.Voorhees@noaa.gov](mailto:Dave.Van.Voorhees@noaa.gov).

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **I. Abstract**

This request is for a new information collection.

Marine recreational anglers are surveyed to collect catch and effort data, fish biology data, and angler socioeconomic characteristics. These data are required to carry out provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), as amended, regarding conservation and management of fishery resources.

Marine recreational fishing participation data have been collected through a combination of mail surveys, telephone surveys and on-site intercept surveys with recreational anglers. Amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) require the development of an improved data collection program for recreational fisheries. To meet these requirements, NOAA Fisheries is designing and testing new approaches for sampling and surveying recreational anglers.

This data collection will test the effectiveness of a longitudinal panel study for contacting anglers and determining how many individuals participate in recreational saltwater fishing. The goal of the study is to assess the feasibility of the data collection

design for collecting recreational fishing data, as well as testing assumptions and measuring potential sources of error in ongoing recreational fishing surveys.

## **II. Method of Collection**

Information will be collected through mail surveys.

## **III. Data**

*OMB Control Number:* None.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission (request for a new information collection).

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 5,131.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 10 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 1,596.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

## **IV. Request for Comments**

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents,

including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: January 23, 2013

**Glenna Mickelson,**

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

**Billing Code: 3510-22-S**

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